



278853

3-21-99

UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY
REGION 5

I. HEADING

DATE: March 31, 1999

SUBJECT: Carbographics, Harwood Heights, Cook County, Illinois

FROM: Brad Benning, OSC, US EPA, Region 5, EERB

TO: K. Mould, US EPA, OSWER, Washington, DC
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A. Cross, Illinois EPA

POLREP: Polrep # 3

II. BACKGROUND

Site No:	B556
Delivery Order No.:	N/A (PRP Lead)
Response Authority:	CERCLA
ERNS No.:	
CERCLIS No.:	ILD002993582
NPL Status:	Non-NPL
State Notification:	IEPA notified
Action Memorandum Status:	N/A (AOC)
Start Date:	October 27, 1998
Demobilization Date:	N/A
Completion Date:	N/A

III. SITE INFORMATION

A. Incident Category

The CERCLA incident category for the site is an inactive production facility.

B. Site Description

1. Site Location

The Carbographics site is an abandoned metal parts silk screening facility located at 4757 North Ronald Street, in Harwood Heights, Cook County, Illinois. Coordinates for the site are latitude 41°58'00"N, and longitude 87°48'11.7"W. The potentially responsible party (PRP) is Carbographics Industries, Inc.

The site is located in a suburban residential/industrial neighborhood. The site is bordered on the north by an alley and an apartment building; on the east by residences; on the south by an industrial facility; and on the west by Ronald Street. The homes adjacent to the east fence of the site are within 10 feet of the property. There is an elementary school located approximately 0.25 miles southeast of the site and a high school located approximately 0.5 miles southwest of the site.

The site consists of a one-story, industrial, brick building on the northern portion of the property and an asphalt parking lot on the southern portion of the property. The facility is vacant and has been severely vandalized. There are approximately one hundred and fifty 55-gallon drums scattered throughout the building. There are also over one thousand 1-gallon, 5-gallon, and other various sized containers scattered throughout the building. There is fencing only along the rear of the building, with no other means of restricting access to the building. City workers informed START that trespassers often dump garbage in the parking lot.

2. Description of Threat

On March 13, 1998, the US EPA Region 5 START contractor performed a site assessment at the Carbographics site. The site assessment was performed due to requests from village officials who had expressed concern that uncontained hazardous substances at this site presented a potential threat to the local population. The site assessment documented RCRA hazardous wastes which, due to the serious threat of fire and explosion on site, easy site access, and the presence of nearby schools, there is a significant potential for nearby populations to be exposed to hazardous substances.

C. Preliminary Assessment/Site Inspection Results

On March 13, 1998, the US EPA Region 5 START contractor performed a site assessment at the Carbographics site. The site was found to contain corrosive hazardous wastes and ignitable hazardous waste. These wastes could be found in the over 1,000 small containers and approximately 200 drums found on site.

IV. RESPONSE INFORMATION

A. Situation

A. Current situation

B. Removal activities to date

On March 23, 1999, the PRP contractor resumed removal activities at the site. Approximately 3000 gallons of contaminated water was pumped from the loading dock, numerous cans and drums were removed after the water was pumped down and staged for disposal. The remaining drums in the building were overpacked and prepared for shipment. The floors were cleaned and the accumulated debris was placed in rolloff boxes for disposal.

As of March 31, 1999, 158 drums of waste have been removed along with 36 empty drums. Nine additional drums are scheduled for removal on April 5, 1999. The compressed gas cylinders have also been removed. Approximately 90 yards of debris have been removed from the building.

C. Enforcement

The PRP will conduct cleanup actions at the site through a private contractor.

B. Planned Removal Activities

- * PRP contractor will conduct underground tank removal on April 13, 1999, an initial investigation indicated the two 500 gallon tanks are full with a water/solvent mixture.
- * Additional empty drums and cans will be removed on April 13, 1999.
- * A second contractor has been retained to coordinate the disposal of the (16) cubic yard boxes containing the small paint cans, a disposal date has not been determined.
- * The PRP is investigating the possible recycling alternatives for (9) containers of a bronze metallic powder.

C. Key Issues

None

V. COST INFORMATION

ERCS

Current D.O. Ceiling Not Applicable

START

TDD Ceiling \$10,000

Costs through 3/31/99 \$1,800